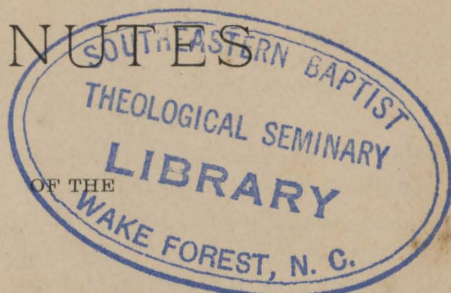


MINUTES



OCMULGEE ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

CHURCH AT SHOAL CREEK, NEWTON COUNTY, GA.

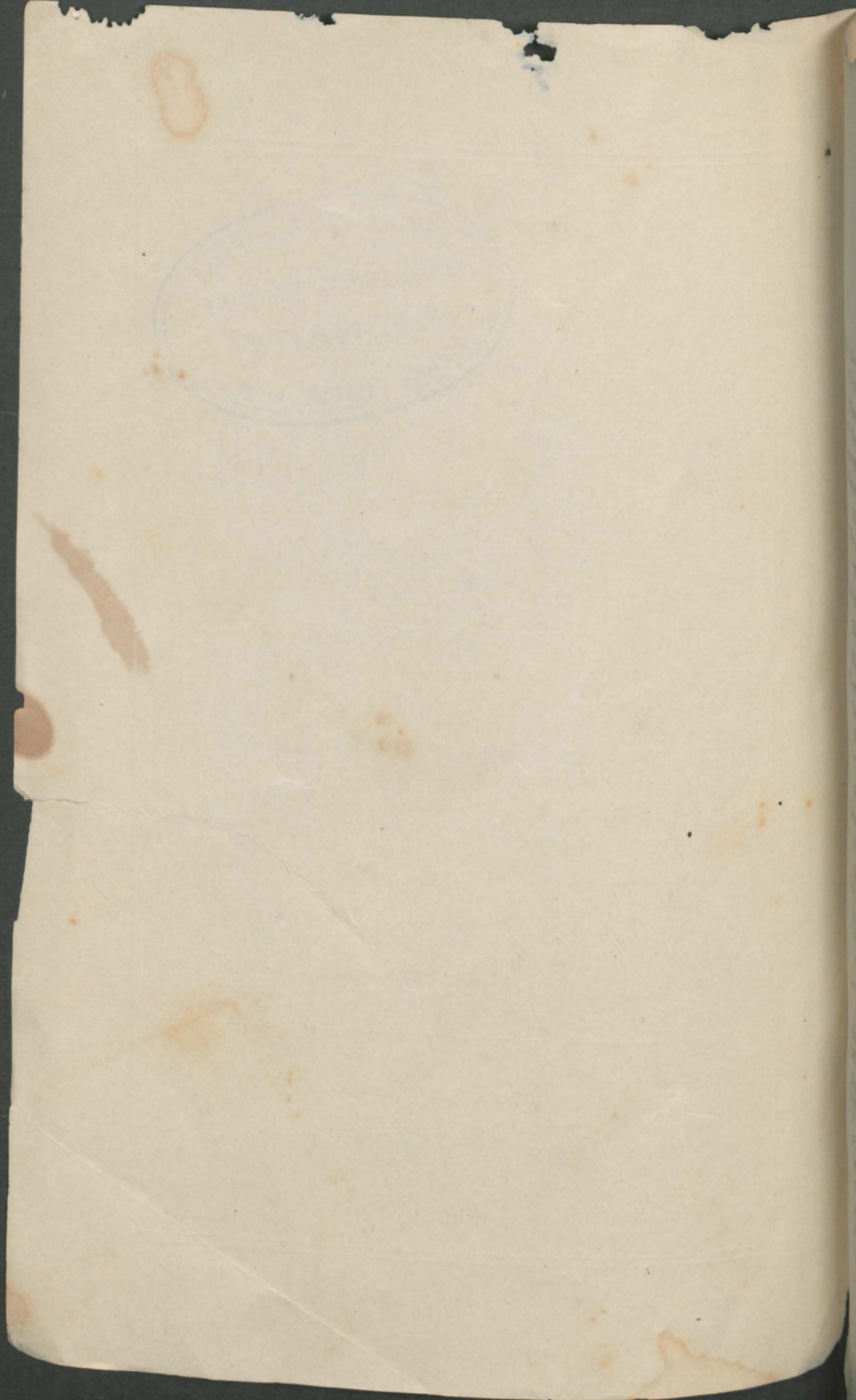
September 11, 12 and 13, 1891.

COLUMBUS, GA.:

Thos. Gilbert, Printing, Book-Binding, Paper Boxes, Blank Books.

Printer of the Gospel Messenger.

1891.



MINUTES

Of the Ocmulgee Association, held with the Church at Shoal Creek, Newton County, Ga., September 11, 12 and 13, 1891.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Bro. Isaac Jones, of North Carolina, from Isa. xlv. 22, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and besides me there is none else."

After one hour's intermission, the messengers met in the house. No preaching at the stand on account of rain.

The Association was opened with prayer by Bro. J. J. Manly, from the Oconee Association.

Received letters from twelve churches, and minuted their state.

Elected Eld. D. L. HITCHCOCK Moderator, and D. G. McCOWEN Clerk; J. H. Gresham to write the next Circular Letter.

Invited visiting and corresponding brethren to seats with us. Read the Decorum.

Called for petitionary letters.

On motion, agreed to adopt the same plan in reference to business before the Association as that of last year.

On motion, the following Committees were appointed:

On Preaching—J. A. Adams, E. M. Moore, B. H. Pounds, S. S. Mullins, J. W. Hargroves, with Moderator and church delegation.

To Write Corresponding Letter—J. H. Gresham, D. G. McCowen, and J. A. Adams.

Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and received as follows:

Yellow River—Elds. Wm. Adams, J. F. Aldmand, and Brethren John Adams, J. D. Curtis, A. Whitaker, S. H. Lunsford, J. B. Upshaw, H. F. Upshaw, C. H. Lunsford, C. T. Laseter, J. R. Wilson, J. B. Keen.

Oconee—Elds. F. M. McLeroy, J. J. Manly, J. R. Chandler, M. F. Hurst, A. P. Malcom, H. F. Verner, J. M. Breedlove, W. C. Carter, T. F. Hollis and J. M. Adams.

Primitive Ebenezer—Letter and minutes.

Marietta—Letter and minutes.

Olive—Letter and minutes.

Delaware River and Warwick—Letter and minutes.

Kehukee—Letter and minutes.

The Committee to Arrange Preaching, reported that Eld. J. R.

Chandler would commence preaching at the stand to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, followed by Bro. Wm. Adams. After one hour's intermission, Bro. J. J. Manly would preach, followed by Bro. J. F. Aldmand.

The Association then adjourned to 8:30 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by Bro. J. J. Manly.

SATURDAY MORNING.

8:30 o'clock—The Association met again, and was opened with prayer by Bro. F. M. McLeroy.

Called for further correspondence and received Eld. Isaac Jones, of North Carolina, as a visiting brother.

Called for the Circular Letter prepared by Bro. J. T. Glover, which was read, received and adopted.

Appointed correspondents to sister Associations as follows:

Yellow River—Eld. C. B. Spivey, J. A. Adams.

Oconee—Elds. D. L. Hitchcock, C. B. Spivey, and Brethren G. D. Carter and J. A. Adams.

Primitive Ebenezer—Elds. J. H. Gresham, D. G. McCowen, D. L. Hitchcock.

Marietta—Letter and minutes.

Olive—Letter and minutes.

Delaware River and Warwick—Letter and Minutes.

Kehukee—Letter and minutes.

Appointed General Meetings as follows:

First District—Enon, Putnam county, Ga., commencing on Friday before the ~~second~~ Sunday in August, 1892.

Second District—Mt. Zion, Jones county, Ga., Friday before the third Sunday in July, 1892.

Called for, read and adopted the Corresponding Letter.

Called for miscellaneous business.

At the request of High Shoals Church, a letter of dismission from our body was granted them by the Association.

Resolved, That this Association feel to give thanks to Almighty God, and to our brethren, sisters and friends in this vicinity, for the hospitality we have received during the meeting.

The next session of our body is appointed to be held with the church at Ephesus, Monroe county, Ga., four miles west of Juliet, on the E. T., V. & G. R. R., and seven miles east of Forsyth, on

the Macon & Western Railroad, commencing on Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1892.

Agreed to have 1,000 copies of these minutes printed, and that the Clerk attend to the printing and distribution of the same, and that he receive for his services the balance of the money after paying for the above number.

Called for contributions and distributed corresponding minutes.

Adjourned, prayer by Bro. M. F. Hurst.

D. L. HITCHCOCK, *Moderator.*

D. G. McCOWEN, *Clerk.*

SATURDAY MORNING—10 O'CLOCK—Met at the stand and the brethren appointed preached to a large and attentive congregation.

SUNDAY MORNING—Met again; preaching by Bro. F. M. McLeroy, followed by Bro. M. F. Hurst; in the afternoon, Eld. Jones, of North Carolina, preached, closed by the Moderator.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	MESSENGERS' NAMES	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Dis'm'd by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Dead	Total	Associational Fund	Meeting Days
Eanon.....	Putnam ..	Eld. D. L. Hitchcock, B. H. Pounds....	...	...	...	...	...	234	\$ 3 00	4
New Salem.....	Putnam ..	M. W. Boon.....	...	...	...	...	...	4	2 00	2
Crooked Creek....	Putnam ..	J. W. Hargroves, J. Hudson.....	...	...	1	...	...	46	2 50	1
Murder Creek.....	Jasper....	H. Kelley, T. Banks, (col.).....	...	...	...	...	...	25	1 50	1
Shoal Creek.....	Newton....	G. D. Carter, W. J. Ivey.....	3	5	...	...	...	246	3 00	2
County Line.....	Jones	J. A. Adams, G. W. Marsh.....	...	...	...	...	...	30	3 00	1
New Hope.....	Jones	Eld. J. H. Gresham, J. T. Glover.....	1	2	...	...	...	155	3 00	4
Mt. Zion.....	Jones	G. T. Savor, J. M. Mercer.....	1	2	1	1	112	1 50	3		
Ephesus.....	Monroe ..	W. T. Ingram.....	...	1	2	...	...	19	2 00	2
Smyrna.....	Monroe ..	Eld. D. G. McCowen, E. M. Moore	3	1	...	...	...	243	2 00	4
Fellowship.....	Jasper....	B. F. Tyler.....	...	...	...	...	...	10	1 50	3
High Shoals.....	Monroe ..	S. S. Mullins, H. A. Hartsfield.....	...	...	...	...	...	630	1 00	3

MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

D. L. HITCHCOCK, Stansfordsville, Putnam county, Ga.

D. G. McCOWEN, Forsyth, Monroe county, Ga.

J. H. GRESHAM, Five Points, Jones county, Ga.

C. B. SPIVEY, Eatonton, Putnam county, Ga.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Ocmulgee Association in Session with the Church at Shoal Creek, Newton County, Ga., September 11, 12 and 13, 1891, to the Associations with whom she Corresponds, sends Christian Salutation:

DEAR BRETHREN—Through the continued mercy and goodness of our Heavenly Father, we have been permitted to hold another session of our body in love and peace. We were made to rejoice at the coming of your messengers, and to hear them proclaim the glorious gospel of salvation by grace to His chosen people, and to the establishment of His kingdom upon earth, through the merits of a crucified and risen Saviour. Owing to the continued rain, our correspondence was not so full as it otherwise would have been, yet our meeting has been one of rejoicing and praise. May God, in his mercy, guide us by His unerring spirit in the way of all truth, that we may finish our course, as Paul did, looking for that crown of righteousness which is reserved for all the people of God.

The next session of our body is appointed to be held with the church at Ephesus, Monroe county, Ga., four miles west of Juliett, on the E. T., V. & G. R. R., and seven miles east of Forsyth, on the Macon & Western Railroad, commencing on Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1892, when we hope to meet you again.

D. G. McCOWEN, *Clerk.*

D. L. HITCHCOCK, *Moderator.*

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Ocmulgee Association, in session with the Church at Shoal Creek, Newton County, Ga., to the Churches composing the same:

BELOVED BRETHREN IN CHRIST—In sending you this epistle, we desire to stir up your pure minds to a diligent search of the scriptures of truth. In doing this, we wish to present them as the only perfect and infallible rule of faith and practice to the people of God. Solomon says: "I know that whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it that men should fear before Him."—Eccle. iii. 14. What God doeth is done forever. In Him there is no variableness or shadow of turning. He, by whose power and wisdom all things were created, in setting up his kingdom, would surely provide all necessary laws and rules for the government of that kingdom. He says: "Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion."—Psa. ii. 6. Let us contemplate the excellency and majesty of this glorious King in his undescribed character. He declares Himself to be the I Am that I Am, from everlasting to everlasting. God over all blessed forever. John said of him, "All things were made by him, and without him was not anything made that was made." The Prophet

spoke of him, saying: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever." And again a King shall reign in righteousness.

We would direct you, dear brethren, to the law and to the testimony of our King and Law Giver; for if we speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in us. His law is plainly laid down, and his testimony is bound up in the New Testament, embracing all matters of our faith and Christian practice, and he that taketh heed thereto shall not err. The want of a proper adherence to this divine rule has been the fruitful source from whence so much error and strife has crept into the Church of Christ, often bringing with it sorrow and distress to the saints of God. We should be a united and happy people, having a Thus saith the Lord to direct us in matters of faith and practice. "I therefore, brethren, beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called;" for Christ is not the author of confusion, but in him is peace. "In the world you shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." "Walk with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness and truth, providing what is acceptable unto the Lord, and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness; but rather reprove them. But now, many who profess to be the followers of Jesus, suppose the Scriptures are only an outline of the Divine will concerning us, to be filled up by men so as to suit their views and circumstances. But brethren, we have not so learned Christ, believing a thus saith the Lord is sufficient, and he who would amend it, or make any alteration, only pollutes it. We believe the plan of salvation is plainly laid down, and every point of faith and practice is clearly set forth in the Scriptures, and we will proceed to notice a few of them: The sovereignty of Zion's King we have only glanced at. His setting up of his kingdom and making all necessary laws for its government, his electing love in the choice of his people in Christ "according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love;" also, God hath, from the beginning, chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth. Again, "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father." These few passages of Scripture we think, sufficient to establish the election of grace embraced in God's choice of his people, is the indivisible, spiritual oneness of Christ and his church in the ancients of eternity. "Yet, by nature, they were children of wrath, even as others." Paul said, "Moreover, whom he

did predestinate, them he also called;" also, "having predestinated us to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ unto himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." And now, how are they brought into the church militant? We find the Lord commanding those whom he had qualified and called to the work, saying: "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned." Again, "They that gladly received the word were baptized." Thus we have the preaching of the gospel by those whom the Lord sends, under the full knowledge that all power in heaven and in earth is given exclusively to Christ. He teaches the creature a full knowledge of himself and his dependence upon Him. He must be prepared of the Lord to receive the preaching. So He has arranged that His people shall glory in the Lord.

We submit these lines for your consideration. Now may the Spirit and grace of our Lord and Saviour be and remain with us all. Amen.

D. L. HITCHCOCK, *Moderator.*

D. G. McCOWEN, *Clerk.*

